

ADD Fact Sheet

ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

ADMINISTRATION ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

Developmental Disabilities Programs

There are nearly four million Americans with developmental disabilities. Developmental disabilities are severe, chronic disabilities attributable to mental and/or physical impairment, which manifest before age 22 and are likely to continue indefinitely. They result in substantial limitations in three or more areas: self-care, receptive and expressive language, learning, mobility, self-direction, capacity for independent living, and economic self-sufficiency, as well as the continuous need for individually planned and coordinated services.

The major goal of the programs is a partnership with state governments, local communities, and the private sector to assist people with developmental disabilities to reach maximum potential through increased independence, productivity, and community integration. They address all elements of the life cycle: prevention; diagnosis; early intervention; therapy; education; training; employment; and community living and leisure opportunities.

The Developmental Disabilities programs comprise three State-based programs that collaborate from different mandated activity areas. A fourth program addresses issues that are of concern to residents across the nation.

Developmental Disabilities Grant Programs

The four grant programs received \$133.114 million in FY 2001 and \$140.534 million was appropriated in FY 2002.

State Councils on Developmental Disabilities

Formula grants support Councils in capacity building and advocacy activities, to develop a consumer and family-centered comprehensive system, and a coordinated array of culturally competent services, supports, and other assistance designed to help people with developmental disabilities achieve independence, productivity, and integration and inclusion into the community. The Councils address employment issues, and may also address community living activities, child development activities, system coordination and community education activities, and other activities.

These state grants are allotted on the basis of population, financial need, and need for service. Fifty-five states and territories receive Council grants. In FY 2001 \$67.8 million was available for and \$69.8 million was appropriated for FY 2002.

State Protection and Advocacy Agencies

State Protection and Advocacy Agencies provides for the protection and advocacy of legal and human rights through formula grants to States. The P&A systems advocate on behalf of, and provide advocacy services to, persons with developmental disabilities in areas related to their disabilities, including: education, abuse and neglect, institutional and habilitation services,

guardianship and housing issues. These systems have provided individual advocacy to about 40,000 clients per year, pursued class-action advocacy on behalf of hundreds of thousands per year, and also provided training and information and referral services to additional thousands.

These State grants are allotted on the basis of population, financial need, and need for service. Fifty-six States and territories receive P&A grants. In FY 2001, \$32.920 million was available and for FY 2002, \$35.0 million was appropriated.

National Network of University Centers for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities Education, Research, and Services

National Network of University Centers for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities Education, Research, and Services (UCEDD's) is a discretionary grant program for public and private, non-profit agencies affiliated with a university. Annual grants provide for interdisciplinary training, exemplary services, technical assistance, research, and information/dissemination activities.

The program is designed to garner additional assistance for a national network of UCEDD's. The centers support activities, that address a variety of service issues from prevention to early intervention to supported employment, and a broad range of disabilities. The UCEDD's now consists of 61 programs, which have provided clinical and community-based service and technical assistance to community services personnel.

For FY 2001, \$21.5 million was available in grants for operational and administrative support as part of national network. For FY 2002, \$24.0 million was appropriated.

Projects of National Significance

PNS funds are awarded to public or private, non-profit institutions to enhance the independence, productivity, integration and inclusion into the community of people with developmental disabilities. Monies also support the development of national and state policy.

These projects focus on the most pressing issues affecting people with developmental disabilities and their families. Issues transcend the borders of states and territories, but must be addressed in a manner, which allows for local implementation of practical solutions. Examples include:

- Family support activities;
- Data collection and analysis;
- Technical assistance to program components;
- Projects which enhance participation of people with developmental disabilities from minority and ethnic groups;
- Projects that explore the transition of youth with developmental disabilities from school to work;
- Projects which develop strategies for self-advocacy and leadership skills among people with developmental disabilities and their families;
- Projects which address involvement of people with developmental disabilities in the criminal justice system.

In addition, PNS funds may be awarded for technical assistance and demonstration projects that

expand or improve the advocacy functions of the Councils and the functions performed by UCEDD's. In FY 2001, a total of \$10.894 million was available for PNS grants and \$11.734 million was appropriated in FY 2002/

Modified January 25, 2002